

Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 00705 181102Z
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-01 DHA-02 INR-07
CIAE-00 /026 W

-----181115 092728 /12

O R 181030Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1042
AMCONSUL DOUALA BY POUCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE YAOUNDE 0705

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: CASC (HARRIS, KENTON L)
SUBJECT: WELFARE AND WHEREABOUTS, AMCIT: KENTON L HARRIS

REF: DOUALA 53

1. FURTHER DETAILS FEB 16 INCIDENT CALABAR AIRPORT RESULTING DETENTION KENTON L HARRIS REPORTED REFTEL PROVIDED BY CARL J LINDBLAD, MEMBER USAID TA/NUTRITION CONTRACTED EMPLOYEE WITH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION CENREAL CHEMISTS ON GRAIN LOSS PROJECT (SAME AS HARRIS), WHO ON SAME FLIGHT.

2. WHEN PASSENGERS AND LATER CABIN CREW NIGERIAN AIRWAYS FLIGHT 427 OBJECTED HARRIS' TAKING PICTURES, HE DESTROYED A ROLL OF FILM. IN BRIEF EXCHANGE WITH HARRIS, LINDBLAD UNDERSTOOD HIM TO SAY THAT HE HAD EXPOSED ROLL OF FILM BUT IT NOT THE SAME AS ONE HE HAD SHOT FROM PLANE.

3. AS FAR AS LINDBLAD AWARE, THERE WERE SIGNS PROHIBITING PICTURES BEING TAKEN AT LAGOS AND CALABAR AIRPORTS, BUT NO INDICATIONS RESTRICTIONS AGAINST FILMING FROM AIRCRAFT (DCM DISCUSSED MATTER IN GENERAL TERMS WITH NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR SANI EVENING OF 17TH AND THIS CONFORMS WITH HIS UNDERSTANDING
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NIGERIAN REGULATIONS ON PICTURE TAKING). LINDBLAD BELIEVES INCIDENT OCCURRED WELL BEFORE ARRIVAL CALABAR AIRPORT AND SUSPECTS NO PICTURES TAKEN PORT HARCOURT AIRPORT.

3. LINDBLAD UNDER IMPRESSION THAT AIRPORT COMMANDER (MILITARY) DID NOT WISH GET CAUGHT IN SITUATION WHERE HE WOULD MAKE WRONG DECISION, RESULTING IN HIS GETTING IN TROUBLE WITH HIS ABSENT

SUPERIOR. ACTING COMMANDER DECIDED HARRIS TO BE HELD UNTIL OTHER PICTURES (ALL COLOR SLIDES BELIEVED TO BE KODACHROME) WHICH HE HAD TAKEN ARE DEVELOPED TO ASCERTAIN IF HE HAS PHOTOS OTHER STRATEGIC SITES. OBVIOUS PROBLEM COULD ARISE IF AND WHEN FILMS DEVELOPED AND THERE RECOGNIZABLE SHOTS FROM PLANE ON PORT HARCOURT - CALABAR LEG OF TRIP.

4. HARRIS HAS DEPENDENT WIFE JEAN HARRIS, 7504 MARBURY ROAD, BETHESDA, MARYLAND (301) 320 3765. IF UNAVAILABLE, THEN CONTACT THROUGH MRS MERLE LNU, DISCOVERY TRAVEL CENTERS, 5530 WISCONSIN AVENUE, CHEVY CHASE (301) 656-1300, AS MRS HARRIS MAY BE TRAVELING.

5. ACCORDING INFO AVAILABLE HERE, WEDNESDAY ONLY FLIGHT CALABAR-DOUALA.

6. PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU WISH US ASSIST FURTHER THIS MATTER. LIND-BLAD LEAVES YAOUNDE FEB 25.
SPIRO

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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